(iii) To develop sectors in the region which have a comparative advantage such as agro processing, hydel power generation.

(iv) Enhancing the skills and competencies of the people and building the capacities for institutions within the Government and outside.

(v) Creating a hospitable investment climate to encourage investment by private sector particularly for infrastructure.

(vi) Harnessing the resources of the Government and the private sector to realise the objectives of the Vision.

Overall, the Vision Document stresses the development of agriculture and allied sectors, strengthening of physical infrastructure, participatory development and inclusive governance. It has been estimated in the Vision document that additional investment to the extent of Rs. 13,29,891 crore from the Eleventh Plan to the first three years of Thirteenth Plan would be required. As per projections made in the NER Vision document, per capita income of India by 2020 is expected to be about Rs. 87459 at the 2006-07 prices by 2020. To reach this level of income between 2006-07 and 2019-2020, the Vision document estimates that Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) in the North-Eastern Region will have to grow at 12.95% per year on an average.

As per extant policy, 51 non-exempted Ministries and Departments of the Union Government have to annually spend at least 10% of their Gross Budgetary Support in the NE Region failing which the amount accrues to the Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resource (NLCPR). The accruals under NLCPR are then spent on projects recommended by the State Governments under the extant guidelines.

(c) to (e) The implementation of various measures for the socio-economic development of the North Eastern Region through the Ministries/Departments and agencies of the Union Government under their flagship national programmes, special schemes and projects for the NER and investments through sources other than GBS is an ongoing process. They are reviewed at intervals at different levels of the Government and corrective measures taken to remove bottlenecks.

Air pollution in Delhi

†1035. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the increase in respiratory ailments among children as a result of increasing air pollution in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether there is proposal to ban polluting vehicles; and

(c) if so, by when it would be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Air pollution may aggravate respiratory ailments depending upon,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the concentration of pollutants, length of exposure, individual susceptibility and other factors. However, there is no conclusive data to establish co-relationship between the air pollution and the incidences of respiratory ailments.

(b) and (c) The steps taken by the Government to control vehicular pollution include the following:—

- The polluting vehicles including more than 15 years old commercial vehicles have already been banned in Delhi.
- A new vehicle is allowed to come to the market only when it passes type-approval test through a Certified Testing Agency. Further, all in-use vehicles are required to take Pollution Under Control (PUC) certificate.
- Stricter emission norms for automobiles and improved fuel quality are in place.
- Cleaner alternative fuels like Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) are also in use in Delhi. Entire city bus fleet and taxis are on clean fuel in Delhi.

Disposal of urban waste

1036. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment of the waste generated by urban India, annually;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no systematic disposal of urban waste as pointed out by a CAG Audit Report recently;

(c) whether Government is considering steps towards scientific management of waste in urban areas of the country; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has made an assessment on Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) generation in 59 cities. (35 metros and 24 State Capitals) in the country. They have also collected information on the quantity of waste generation in 28 cities in 2007-08.

(b) to (d) CAG has given a report entitled "Management of Wastes in India". The steps taken for scientific management of urban wastes in the country include the following:—

(i) Government has notified the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000. According to these Rules, Urban Local Bodies are required to take necessary steps for proper management of municipal solid wastes.